

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Consent Item:

Appointments to the Kentucky Textbook Commission

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 156.405 (2)

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education approve the recommendations for appointment to the State Textbook Commission?

Background/History:

Existing Policy. In accordance with KRS 156.405(2), the Kentucky Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the chief state school officer, approves the appointment of members to the State Textbook Commission for terms of four years. Two appointments are made each year with the exception of four appointments made every fourth year.

The State Textbook Commission oversees the state adoption process for textbooks and instructional materials. It consists of ten members who represent the various areas of the Commonwealth that fit the following configuration -- two (2) parents, two (2) administrators, five (5) teachers, and one (1) higher education representative. Their responsibilities include approving substitutions, establishing the state multiple list, approving membership for a statewide review team, and developing an evaluation instrument for each adoption group with the assistance of the review team.

Individuals currently serving on the Commission are as follows:

- Rhonda Boyd, teacher, Georgetown Middle School, Georgetown (Scott Co.)
- John H. Hudson, principal, Atherton High School, Louisville (Jefferson Co.)
- Bonnie R. Martin, teacher, Henry County Middle School, New Castle (Henry Co.)
- Jennifer Mattingly, assistant principal, Rockcastle County High School, Mt. Vernon (Rockcastle Co.)
- Karen McDaniel, librarian, Kentucky State University, Frankfort (Franklin Co.)
- Mary Mills, parent, Munfordville (Hart Co.)
- Staci Barnett-Slusher, parent, Harlan (Harlan County)
- Cliff Owens, administrator, McCracken County Schools, Paducah (McCracken Co.)
- Karen Roberts, teacher, Longfellow Primary School, Mayfield (Graves Co.)
- Katrina Slone, teacher, Hindman Elementary, Hindman (Knott Co.)

Policy Issues and Options:

According to KRS 156.405(2), the State Textbook Commission is required to have ten members. As of March 3, 2006, the terms of Karen McDaniel and John Hudson ended, creating two vacancies on the Commission.

If these two new members are approved, the composition of the State Textbook Commission will represent all areas of the state, will consist of one (1) male and nine (9) females, will be composed of one (1) African-American and nine (9) Caucasians, and meet the requirements set forth in statute.

The board may approve the nominees for appointment as submitted below, or may request staff to provide additional applicants.

Staff Recommendation and Rationale:

Staff recommends that the Board approve the appointments of the following persons to the State Textbook Commission. Each applicant is fully qualified to be a member of the Commission.

Natalie Stiglitz is a full-time faculty member at the University of Louisville in the College of Education and Human Development. Her university work focuses on the application of standards in various contexts including alignment of standards with instructional resources. As a middle level educator, she participated in school- and district-level textbook adoptions for both science and social studies. As a social studies curriculum consultant at the state level, Ms. Stiglitz reviewed texts and supplementary resources in terms of alignment with Kentucky standards, developmental appropriateness, bias, interdisciplinary connections and appropriate instructional strategies. Ms. Stiglitz believes that textbooks are resources that support instruction and should not be the sole resource for the delivery of content.

Denishia Martin is a teacher in Arts and Humanities and Language Arts at Warren County High School. Ms. Martin has participated in Asian Studies and served as an advisor for the Future Educators of America. Her broad range of teaching expertise is enhanced by her experiences of teaching in a variety of contexts - from traditional high school and college classrooms to the online experience of Kentucky Virtual High School. Ms. Martin believes that we are moving toward a changing learning environment and must consider how a variety of instructional resources might best serve learning in the transition as well as in the future. She has particular experience and interest in the use of technology in the classroom.

Attached are the applications Ms. Stiglitz and Ms. Martin submitted for the positions.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

This process ensures that teachers and students have access to the most current instructional resources in a variety of formats and learning levels.

Contact Person:

Starr Lewis, Associate Commissioner
Office of Teaching and Learning
Development 502/564-9850
starr.lewis@education.ky.gov

Michael Miller, Director
Division of Curriculum
502/564-2106
michael.miller@education.ky.gov

Deputy Commissioner

Commissioner of Education

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